

WE CLAIM:

1. A casino bonus game for an underlying casino game machine, said casino bonus game comprising:

a playing field;

a ball, said ball propelled onto said playing field when an initiate condition occurs during the play of said underlying game;

a row of lanes on said playing field, said ball after traversing said playing field traveling through one of said lanes in said row;

a display at said row of lanes on said playing field for displaying at least one target across a plurality of said lanes;

a game response indication when said ball travels through said one lane, said game response indication being an award when said at least one target is hit.

2. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said at least one target is randomly displayed.

3. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said at least one target has a payoff value different from lanes not having said at least one target.

4. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said casino underlying game machine is a slot machine, said slot machine having a plurality of reels and a payline.

5. The casino bonus game of claim 4 wherein said initiate condition occurs when a bonus game symbol appears on said payline during the play of said slot machine game.

6. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said initiate condition is an accumulated value based upon said play of said underlying game machine.

7. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein the at least one target is a plurality of targets, and wherein at least one of the plurality of targets displays a special effect; when said one target displaying the special effect is hit, then increasing said award.

8. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein the at least one target moves across lanes in said row.

9. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said display further randomly displays at least one end-of-game target in at least one lane in said row, said casino bonus game ending when said end-of-game target is hit.

10. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein when said ball travels through one said lane with no target the casino bonus game ends.

11. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein when said ball travels through one said lane with no target, then a new ball is propelled.

12. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein when said at least one target is hit, then a new ball is propelled.

13. The casino bonus game of claim 1 further comprising:
a credit meter,
a ball sensor in each of said lanes;

a controller, said controller in response to said initiate condition occurring (1) randomly displaying said at least one target in said display, (2) activating said launch mechanism, (3) receiving a signal from the ball sensor at said lane said ball traveled through, (4) determining whether said at least one target is hit, and (5) incrementing said credit meter with a payoff for hitting the target.

14. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein said display displays at least one second target of a second type and wherein said game response indication is an end of bonus game indication when said at least one target of the second type is hit.

15. The casino bonus game of claim 1 wherein a second game response indication occurs when said ball travels through said one lane missing said at least one target.

16. The casino bonus game of claim 13 wherein said second game response indication is a replay indication of said casino bonus game.

17. A casino game comprising:
a playing field;
a ball, said ball propelled onto said playing field;
a row of lanes on said playing field, said ball after traversing said playing field traveling through one of said lanes;
a display at said row of lanes on said playing field, said display randomly displaying a plurality of targets;
a ball sensor in each of said lanes;
a controller, said controller randomly displaying said plurality of targets in said display, activating said launch mechanism, receiving a signal from the ball sensor at said lane said ball traveled

through, and determining whether a target is hit and issuing a game response indication when said target is hit.

18. A method for playing a bonus casino game comprising:
starting play of the bonus casino game when a bonus condition occurs in an underlying casino game;
randomly displaying a plurality of targets at exit lanes of the bonus casino game;
propelling a ball onto a playing field for said bonus casino game, the ball exiting one of the exit lanes;
determining whether the exit lane the ball traveled through has a target displayed;
issuing a game response indication when a target is determined to be at the aforesaid lane;
randomly displaying a plurality of new targets at the exit lanes in response to issuing a game response indication,
propelling another ball onto the playing field, the another ball exiting one of the exit lanes,
determining whether the aforesaid one exit lane has a new target,
issuing a second game response indication when a new target is determined to be at the aforesaid one exit lane.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the plurality of new targets is the plurality of targets with the determined target removed.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein the number of the plurality of new targets is different from the number of plurality of targets.

21. The method of claim 18 further comprising:

displaying a set of objects in response to the issuance of a game response indication,
receiving an input from a player selecting one of the objects in the set,
revealing an award associated with the selected one object.

22. The method of claim 18 further comprising:
displaying a set of objects in response to the issuance of a second game response indication,
receiving an input from a player selecting one of the objects in the set,
revealing an award associated with the selected one object.

23. A method for playing a bonus casino game comprising:
starting play of the bonus casino game when a bonus condition occurs in an underlying casino game;
randomly displaying a series of single digit numbers at exit lanes of the bonus casino game, one single digit number displayed at each of said exit lanes;
sequentially launching a pre-determined number of balls onto a playing field for said bonus casino game, each of the pre-determined number of balls exiting one of the exit lanes;
determining the displayed random number at the exit lane for each of the pre-determined number balls based upon when the balls exited the lanes;
issuing a game response indication in the form of a number read wherein each number read corresponds to a decimal number placement for a decimal number.

24. The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of:

providing an award based on the maximum number created from the number read.

25. The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of:
providing an award based on the number read.

26. The method of claim 23 wherein at least one graphic symbol is added to the series of numbers, said at least one graphic symbol providing an additional game feature when a launched ball travels through a lane containing the graphic symbol.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein the additional game feature is launching another ball.

28. The method of claim 26 wherein the additional game feature is performing a mathematical operation on the number read.

29. A method for playing a bonus casino game comprising:
starting play of the bonus casino game when a bonus condition occurs in an underlying casino game;

randomly displaying a plurality of numerical award values at exit lanes of the bonus casino game, one of said series of numbers displayed at each of a corresponding number of said exit lanes;

randomly displaying at least one graphic in an exit lane not displaying one of said plurality of numerical award values;

launching a ball onto a playing field for said bonus casino game, the ball exiting one of the exit lanes;

when the ball exits the lane displaying the at least one graphic, then performing a predetermined mathematical operation based on the graphic;

issuing a game response indication based on the predetermined mathematical operation.

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the graphic is an arrow.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein the mathematical operation is a summation.

32. The method of claim 29 wherein the mathematical operation is a summation within a topological area.

33. The method of claim 29 wherein the mathematical operation is a multiplication at a set amount and further comprising launching another ball, the value of the number displayed at the lane the another ball traveled through multiplied by the set amount to form an award.

34. A method for playing a bonus casino game interacting with its underlying casino game comprising:

- randomly displaying a game outcome in the underlying casino game, the game outcome based on a plurality of different symbols;

- randomly displaying at least one of the plurality of symbols at at least one of the exit lanes of the bonus casino game when a bonus trigger occurs in the underlying casino game;

- propelling a ball onto a playing field for the bonus casino game, the ball exiting one of the exit lanes;

- determining whether the exit lane the ball traveled through has the at least one symbol displayed;

- converting all symbols corresponding to the aforesaid displayed symbol to a wild symbol in the game outcome in response to the aforesaid determining;

paying based upon the game outcome having the converted wild symbols.

35. A method for playing a bonus casino game interacting with its underlying casino game comprising:

randomly displaying a game outcome in the underlying casino game, the game outcome comprising a plurality of different symbols arranged in a plurality of columns;

propelling a ball onto a playing field for the bonus casino game, the ball exiting one of the exit lanes, each lane corresponding to a column in the plurality of columns;

determining the exit lane the ball traveled through and its corresponding column;

converting each of the symbols in the determined corresponding column of the game outcome to wild symbols;

paying based upon the game outcome having the converted wild symbols.